



Hamsplatter

December 1995

Volume XXII Issue 12



Jingle bells, jingle bells, Santa is making a list and trying to check it twice, except that his MSWindows keeps crashing. Oh well, I'm sure time will tell whether you receive that new radio with automatic voice recognition, or the bag of reindeer droppings. In case you haven't heard, the '94 repeater is now officially an asset of the Fort Wayne Radio Club, under the call sign of W9TE, and located on top of Parkview hospital. Everyone is encouraged to use it, as well as the associated autopatch. Please WELCOME all members of the Murphy Repeater Group into our club, as they will receive complementary membership for 1996. Comments and suggestions regarding current operation and future improvements are always welcome. Don't forget the Talk to Santa via Amateur Television, club Christmas activity on Dec 16th. Everyone wishing to participate, please let Cliff (N9MKB) know, so that we can coordinate efforts.

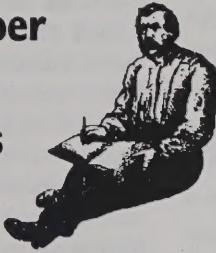
Now is the time to start gathering together all of those unused treasures to be sold at AUCTION during the January meeting. Let's make it the largest club auction ever!!

Plan now to attend our SUPER FWRC Christmas party Dec. 15th, 6:30PM at the Salem Church clubhouse. Reservations need to be made by Dec. 10 by calling Lisa Wolfe at 637-6434. George Berger, the famous Die Freudemacher (The Fun Maker), will provide German music for songs, dancing (Chicken Dance),

and listening. Then an appearance by Santa will complete the evening. Don't miss this one!! The past year as president of your Fort Wayne Radio Club has passed quickly, with the many activities, and projects encountered. It was a very good year for our club, and I was honored to serve. As I pass the gavel to Cliff Shreve (N9MKB), I wish I could personally thank each of you who have supported me. I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

73's Carl (N9NRO)

November 1995 Minutes



The following are the recorded minutes of the Fort Wayne Radio Club:

The November meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Salem Church of Christ on 17 November, 1995. There were about 30 people present. The meeting was hosted by president Carl Rittenhouse.

The minutes were approved as read.

Carl reported that the club's main bank account had a balance of \$3325.78. This excludes approximately \$5000.00 income resulting from the FWRC hamfest.

Jim Pliett announced that the November Foxhunt consisted of foxes N9AVR and N9MKB who hid out at a fire station in Poe, Indiana. They were found by KB9DOT and

N9KKG, (first to find the wily foxes), followed by K9OMA, N9SCD, KB9's DOT& DOS, N9NRO and, finally N9GK and KF9AW who were unable to finish. Jim also announced that the fox hunting points totals for the year were, in order of most points first: K9OMA, KB9DOT, KA9YYI, N9GK, WD9GJF, N9NRO, N9AVR, KB9DOS, N9MKB, KF9VZ plus 17 additional happy hunters. Jim noted that the next get together would be a training foxhunt (no points earned) starting at 13:30 on December 3rd from the Allen County Fairgrounds.

Cliff Shreve reported that the club had investigated the possibility of using the Shilo meeting hall facilities for next years hamfest in lieu of the Allen County Fairground facilities. The investigation was conducted because of the increasing cost of leasing the Fairgrounds. However when an apples-to-apples cost comparison was completed, it was determined that it made sense to stay with the Fairgrounds at least for the 1996 event and consequently the plan is to return there next year. Cliff also noted that the club is still looking for a person (or persons) to volunteer to serve as next years Hamfest Chairperson(s).

Carl announced that the FWRC is now officially the owner of the Murphy repeater as the paperwork transferring the system to FWRC was signed effective 18 November, 1995. In the arrangement FWRC agreed to keep the existing Murphy autopatch active for at least one year and also agreed not to move the machines from their existing site (Parkview Hospital). The call sign is in the process of being changed to W9TE and the Indiana Repeater Coordinating Council is being notified. FWRC anticipates no changes to any of the activities that

November Minutes (Cont)

have been normal to the Murphy machine operation. FWRC work parties have already visited the site and found all to be in order.

Recently the ATV repeater power output was increased by about 3 dB. Shortly thereafter it's power supply died. Jim Pliett rebuilt the power supply, put the system back on the air, and then the PA died (shorted feed-thru). This latest problem is being addressed and the machine is expected to be back on-line soon.

Kathy Raptis suggested that the club should consider raising it's dues by \$5.00 since the club has taken on a new responsibility with the Murphy machines. Considerable discussion ensued; it was pointed out by Carl that a question of a dues increase must be addressed by the Board, so it will be on the agenda at the next Board meeting.

Carl and Kathy Raptis announced that the club Christmas party will occur at the Salem Church of Christ on 15 December starting at 18:30 and will also constitute the December club meeting. Kathy is planning to have chicken, ham, beans, rolls.... and everything else you will need for a delicious meal; you don't need to bring a thing except your appetite. The party is free, however we plan to pass-the-hat around for any donations you care to make. (Rumor has it that Santa may show up).

Cliff Shreve noted that Santa will again talk to patients residing at the State Development Center via ATV on Saturday, December 16. Santa will be located at the North Pole (Cliff's shack) and will commence the formalities at 13:30 hours. If you have ATV capability, be sure and watch; if you would like to lend a hand, contact Cliff.

Bill Hall told us that the Sports Vacation and Boat Show will be held at the Coliseum 14-17 March, and they have offered a free booth to the FWRC. Bill is willing to co-sponsor / co-chair a FWRC presence at the show and feels that it would provide an ideal opportunity for recruitment and P.R. for the club and ham radio in general. If

you are interested in participating, contact Bill.

With the conclusion of business Carl turned the floor over to Phil Hudson and Bob Dexter of the Ft. Wayne Astronomy Club. They presented a very interesting program about amateur astronomy in Ft. Wayne and showed off a selection of telescopes of various size, cost and capability.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Al Burke, WB9SSE*

AUTOMATIC LICENSE RENEWAL

From Amateur Radio Newsline #947

The FCC has begun mailing notices of upcoming amateur license expirations. Those amateurs whose licenses would expire in December 1995 are being sent by first class mail, a computer generated Form 610-R short form.

The new Form 610-R may be signed, dated, and returned to the FCC to renew the license, provided that no changes are needed. For other changes along with renewal, it will be necessary to file a regular FCC Form 610.

The Commissions Gettysburg facility expects to mail more than 5000 such notices covering expirations from December 1 to December 20, 1995. By the way, there is no government fee for an amateur radio license renewal.

In a related story, for some time the ARRL has been sending license expiration notices as a free membership service. That service will be discontinued once the new FCC program is established and is fully operational.

1996 FWRC Membership Dues

Just a reminder that as the year draws to a close, so does the annual membership period. All memberships run from January 1 through December 31. New members from the Murphy group are considered as "paid" through 1996.

Starting in January, a "DUES" flag will be printed on your label if you have not renewed. Please contact the Club if there is a discrepancy.

YOU KNOW YOU ARE A HAM WHEN ...

The only time you get up at 6 AM is for a hamfest.

You know you can run all your home appliances on your personal back-up power.

You have breakfast with a guy in England every morning.

Your ARES/RACES/MARS bag are always packed.

The cute girl with the "KISS" T-shirt asks you what bands you like and you answer 'two and twenty meters'.

You live in a shack.

A clerk asks you to spell your name and you do so phonetically.

In a conversation. You wait for the courtesy tone before speaking.

You hear a scraping sound when driving through the fast-food restaurant window lane.

A band opening is more important than a grand opening.

Sight-seeing amounts to looking at rooftops for antennas.

(From the Titusville ARC Newsletter)



For Sale...

* TAVA PC-Compatible computer. Monochrome monitor, 20 Meg hard drive. \$50.00 Francis Barr W9ETT 637-6479

* Magnavox 45 ft "Pop-Up" tubular tower. All guy-wires, harnesses, and stakes included. \$75.00 Kris Staller KF9AW

* EZ-Way 75 ft, two-piece crank-up tower, tilts over, full tower rotation. Motorized base, amp/switch cabinet, some guy-wires. \$1000.00 Kris Staller KF9AW 486-7324

OTC by W9TC

As the year closes out, I must report an effort was made to have WKJG correct their daily statement, "Fort Wayne's First TV Station." Several months ago, I mailed a copy of the information that appeared in the Hamsplatter, which gave the source, Journal Gazette, which described Fort Wayne's first TV station as W9BWI. Later, there was also the Farnsworth Station on Pontiac Street. I mailed a letter along with a copy of the OTC article to the home address of a staff member whom I respect. To date, I have received no acknowledgement. As they continue to make their statement each day, one can realize how History becomes 180 degrees out of phase.

As I read last months article in this paper entitled "Your Hamsplatter for What It's Worth," by Kris. I was able to recall our SK member Bob Witte, W9PMT, who produced the Hamsplatter copies for a number of years. When I was editor of the Indiana BISON and later when W9PFO was editor, that paper was also printed by Bob Witte. I received a call at work from Bob who was very elated to advise me that he would have to pay INCOME TAXES. A great day for Bob and those who counted him as a friend and Amateur.

Before continuing with TWO HUNDRED METERS & DOWN, a correction of last months article about Wade Smith - his call was W9OFG not W9OFC. On with the story. The story of Amateur Radio is one of Adventurous band of free spirits, at the present time (1936) of more than 60,000; scattered over the entire globe in every continent and every country. Hamfesting, they go, and ragchewing, greeting each other and passing on around the corner in the Milky Way with the careless, cordial effrontery of "Old Man" and "73" plus "CUL." Then turning to the saving of a hundred lives in a fever ravished Alaskan village or flashing the kindly words of the homeland press to a party of explorers at the bottom of the world.

Into a great story of technical advance, they have written another of unparalleled service to humanity, of matchless heroism in flood and disaster. Their great emergency system of communication carries on when all other

have failed. In many years no community in distress in this country has been without valiant aid from amateur radio. The part they have played in the development of radio has been tremendous. Some of the early amateurs had better equipment than was in use by the U.S. Navy.

The United States at this time had ca. 46,000 licensed Amateur Transmitting Stations. The number of licensed operators ca. 40,000. In all the rest of the world there were something like 20,000 additional operators.

More than a million personal and friendly messages are handled annually by American amateurs. Their principle value is in the operating training afforded the amateur operators who handle them. Since 1923, more than one hundred expeditions have been dependant upon amateur radio for contact with the outside world. MacMillen was the first explorer to make use of the enormous possibilities of amateur high-frequency radio communications, and in the succeeding twelve years many millions of words gave been transmitted by amateurs on behalf of expedition parties. Amateurs almost invariably form the last line of communication in time of natural emergency; this has been true in more than forty major and a large number of minor disasters in the past twenty years. In radio's newest relative, television, the picture is etched upon a shimmering blank screen by lines of light. The screen is here set up; let now the lines of light draw in the story of Amateur Radio.

THE DAWN OF THE ART

Thales in 600 BC discovered the peculiar properties of amber, from which Greek root was to be derived the word "electricity," Pliny, and Pliny the Younger, and others unwittingly utilized the properties of electric current in the days of Imperial Rome; but the term itself was not to be invented until fifteen hundred years later, when Dr. Wm Gilbert took the word "Electrum," or "Amber," and derived "Electrica," referring to substances which attract. The word "electricity" first appeared 43 years after Gilbert's death, in Sir Richard Browne's *Pseudodoxio Epidemica* of 1646. In the nineteenth

century an Englishman, Michael Faraday, discovered that a relationship existed between electro-magnetism and light; it was he who first defined the laws of induction.

If you enjoy this true story, I will continue to abstract from the book. Have a good Christmas.

Ted, W9TC

DX Resident Amateurs on Regularly: (From the DX bulletin)

DXCC Country	Callsign	Freq.	UTC
30 Meters	CE3IDY	10102	01-0300
80 Meters	LU6MFD	3504	0700+
80 Meters	JALHQQT	3502	1045
80 Meters	C02CI	3508	1100
Albania	ZALAB	7007	0200
Albania	ZALTAG	18068	1300
Angola	D2/Y03YX	21271	1630
Bolivia	CP8XA	18075	2200
Canary Islands	EA8CN	18078	1300+
East Malaysia	9M6TJ	7006	1500+
Gabon	TR8XX	40M CW	0500
Gambia	C56WW	14012	2200+
Guinea-Bissau	J55UAB	21290	16-1700
Lesotho	7P8SR	3508t	0330
Malawi	7Q7RM	21320	1830+
Mauritius Island	3B8CF	7005	02-0300
Mauritius Island	3B8FG	7008	0200
Mayotte	FM8CB	21290	15-1700
Morocco	CN8NK	15M SSB	1600+
Namibia	V51BO	21300	1930
Nigeris	5N0TRS	14180	2000+
Nigeria	5N0/OK1MU	10101	22-0200
Reunion Island	FR5DX	3796	0200
San Marino	T77C	21022	1500
Slovenia	S51BO	3510	0300+
Tristin da Cunha	2D9CR	21312	1900



WILL THAT CUT 50 OHM HARD LINE?

Successful QSLING

by Jan O'Brien, K6HHD SMARS Feedback, Nov 1995
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In spite of all these "new fangled" computers (which were supposed to create a paperless society!), we still believe that you need the following information in printed form to keep handy to remind about the important items when you send QSL cards.

Getting QSLs is important to you. If it wasn't, you would have little interest in the "Go List". Our goal is to help you get those important QSL cards. We have been gathering information from many sources and feel that you will find the following quite useful.

YOUR QSL CARD: All of the necessary information **INCLUDING YOUR CALL** should be on **ONE** side of your card. It is especially time consuming for those managers handling expedition cards to have to turn cards over to find the call. It is fine to have a two sided card but **PLEASE** make sure your call is **ALSO** included on the side with the QSO information.

If you keep your log in Universal Time (UT) then the time on your card will agree with the time in the DX station's log and save manager countless hours. You must have a clock (preferably 24 hour clock) in your hamshack that tells time in the International standard. Formerly referred to as GMT, also referred to a ZULU time by members of the military and MARS members. **KEEP YOUR LOG IN UT. REMEMBER** that the date changes at OOOO UT. This is early evening in the U.S. (4 p.m. PST and 7 pm. EST.)

If you work a station in April 1, 1992 and you put 4/1/92 on the card and then send it to an overseas country there will be a problem. Most everyone but the U.S. abbreviates date with the day, month, year; someone outside the U.S. will read that date as January 4, 1992. Therefore, avoid confusion by writing out (or abbreviating) the NAME of the month. The biggest headache that QSL Managers have is trying to figure out the time and date that you worked their stations! Be sure that all entries on your card are readable.

If your handwriting is poor, please print. Do not correct mistakes, make a new card. Correcting errors on a card that is later used to apply for awards could cause that card to be disqualified as "altered".

SASE stands for "Self Addressed Stamped Envelope" and SAE "Self Addressed Envelope". **ALWAYS** send at least one SASE or SAE. If your request is for several cards, and especially if it is for more than one station that is handled by the manager, send more than one envelope or be prepared to wait much longer for those cards. Postage expenses come out of the manager's pocket. Standard letter size envelopes are preferred by most managers.

If you don't send some means for returning your card, it may come back via the bureau or perhaps **NOT AT ALL**. (Some managers refuse to answer bureau cards.) When you send a request to an overseas manager or direct to the station you want the card from, include IRC's (International Reply Coupons) for return postage **AND A SAE**. Some folks send "greenstamps" (US dollar bills) for return postage. Please use discretion when sending dollars overseas. They are good most everywhere. However, there are a few places where you may get the person on the other end in trouble by sending money, or, he may never receive it. Mail theft is quite common in some areas of the world.

If you fold your SASE put the fold in the bottom of the envelope in which you enclose it. Many SASE's have been cut in half by the letter opener because the fold was at the top!

BE PATIENT. Managers have various ways of receiving the log information, but the most common is via the mail. Sometimes it may take six months due to lack of mail service to some remote islands. If the operation was a DXpedition the cards may not be printed until the operation is completed and if picture QSLs are to be printed they take extra long.

Ninety nine percent or more of the QSL managers are honest, conscientious, hard working folks, who are doing the best job they are able to do to help you obtain QSL cards. Patience is the byword for obtaining QSL cards. **PLEASE**, be quite certain that you have allowed enough time for the manager to obtain logs before you take him(her) to task for taking so long.

NEW UNLICENSED HF SERVICE PROPOSED!

Would Select Channels Throughout HF Band
-WSVI Report

In the rush to market unlicensed radiofrequency devices, manufacturers are pelting the FCC with requests for new services such as the Family Radio Service (see story, last issue). Those petitions have been limited to the spectrum at VHF or above. Until now, that is!

The FCC has received an unusual petition that proposes a "Messaging and Location Tracking Service" (MLTS) with 10 W unlicensed mobile transmitters. These radios could choose any channel in the entire 3-30 MHz range: the high frequency (HF) spectrum containing Amateur Radio, international broadcasters, maritime, fixed services and many other users world-wide.

The petition was filed by Flash Comm Inc., a joint venture of Harris Corp. and Lexmark. Harris is the well known manufacturer of electronics, broadcast and printing equipment. Lexmark was formerly the IBM typewriter and printer division.

Long haul truckers and other transportation users are key markets for MLTS. "Advanced HF communications is the solution" to their needs, the company told the FCC. The vehicle radios would receive "outbound" messages from non-HF stations such as paging transmitters. They would then use the HF bands on a "secondary, non-interference basis" to communicate "inbound" with large regional base stations. Those base stations would then relay the messages to customers.

"Because of the extremely large number of MLTS units envisioned for field operation, effective regulation by policing individual users would be administratively impossible. Compliance may be assured by treating persons violating the MLTS rules by using modified or non-type accepted equipment as operating without proper authorization in violation of Sections 301 and 302 of the [Communications] Act. Enforcement under Section 401 of the Act would provide civil and criminal penalties."

The Amateur Radio Service may demand experimental data and modifications to the rules. Although the international Radio Regulations certainly provide for mobile HF operation, they may not have contemplated a service that could allow very large numbers of transmitters to land on any channel in the entire HF spectrum.



Do you have an interesting article, news item, or cartoon which you can contribute to the Hamsplatter? Do you have some spare equipment collecting dust that you want to sell? If so, please contact me, Kris, KF9AW. My day phone is 487-3286, evenings 486-7324. Packet messages can be directed to me on 144.97, W9INX.

The deadline for submissions to the January Hamsplatter is January 4, 1996!

1996 MEMBERSHIP DATA: (Give this form to the treasurer at any FWRC meeting or mail to address below)

NAME _____ CALL _____ CLASS: N T G A E

MAIL ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME TELEPHONE # () _____ WORK TELEPHONE # () _____

SHALL WE LIST YOUR ADDR/PHONE# IN MEMBER ROSTER? Y N ARRL MEMBER? Y N

MEMBERSHIP TERM: (JAN-DEC) (JULY-DEC July 1-Dec 31) ONLY)

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$21.00/yr \$10.50/yr immediate family(list all calls)

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP: \$15.00/yr \$7.50/yr licensed member

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP: \$6.00/yr \$3.00/yr full time student

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: \$15.00/yr \$7.50/yr unlicensed member

YOUR CHECK NUMBER # _____ PLEASE PAY BY CHECK, IT'S EASIER FOR BOTH OF US!

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK (Request one from President at any Regular Club Meeting)

Provided at no cost to club members, this handbook provides a full set of information about present and past Club activities, events, and functions. The handbook is available in a clear cover binder, and is upgradeable by easy insertion of new pages into the three-hole binder.

The Fort Wayne Radio Club - Celebrating 75 years of Service

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: CAROLE BURKE WB9RUS DAVE EVANS N9LOV
WALT WOOD N9AVR RON BISHOP N9HZH

Repeaters:

Audio	146.16/.76	146.34/.94	449.875/444.875
Autopatch	146.31/.91	146.34/.94	
Fast Scan TV	439.25/910.25	(Video)	144.34 (Aux sound input)

The Fort Wayne Radio Club
P O Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

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To:

K9OMA/KA9YYI
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CHURUBUSCO, IN 46723

Don't Forget your 1996 Dues



December

1995



**FORT WAYNE
RADIO CLUB**
Fort Wayne, Indiana